(c) and (d) No, Sir. At present there is no such proposal. However, Western Railway has been asked to conduct a comprehensive study to establish the feasibility of introducing Air Conditioned EMU Services.

Manufacturing hub along Delhi-Mumbai freight corridor

701. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under active consideration of Government to establish a manufacturing hub along 1500 kilometre Delhi-Mumbai rail freight-corridor;

(b) whether any foreign participant would be in this project;

(c) if so, the name of the foreign participant(s);

(d) the estimated cost of expenditure;

(e) by when project preparation is expected to commence; and

(f) whether any time-frame has also been fixed to complete it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (f) It is proposed to develop industrial infrastructure around Delhi-Mumbai Rail Freight. Corridor to leverage the rail and road connectivities. As per the concept report, the Industrial Corridor may have 24 Industrial Nodes (12 Investment Regions and 12 Industrial Areas). Investment opportunities would be presented to domestic and overseas investors alike. Government of India is discussing with Government of Japan about the possibilities of their contribution in the Project Development Fund. The project is expected to start in January, 2008, while the Concept Paper is in the final stages of preparation. Details pertaining to estimated cost of expenditure and time-frame for completion would be decided after the detailed project report is finalised.

Modernisation programme

702. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of railway divisions under all railway zones, zone-wise;

(b) the number and names of divisions identified for modernisation;

(c) the names of the station in various divisions modernised/proposed to be modernized;

(d) the details of the measures taken to complete station modernisation programme timely; and

(e) the details of the new facilities installed/proposed to be installed in various modernised/proposed to be modernised stations in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) There are sixty-seven divisions functioning on sixteen Railway Zones on Indian